

Washington - In anticipation of tonight's State of the Union address, U.S. Representative Charlie Wilson (OH-6) issued the following statements:

Bipartisanship: "The challenges Ohio families face today, from the lack of good jobs to soaring health care costs, are so much more important than party politics. Good ideas that address the 'kitchen table' concerns of everyday Ohioans will get my attention and support. That's true whether those ideas come from a Democrat or a Republican, and that includes the Administration."

Economy/Jobs: "While we spend billions and billions of taxpayer dollars in Iraq, struggling places like eastern Ohio are being forgotten. We need to tackle the issue of job creation at home with at least the same kind of energy, focus and support we pour into places thousands of miles away. Our workers will jump on these opportunities. We just need to provide them."

Iraq: "Our brave troops deserve our full support, which means giving them a clear plan to achieve defined goals in Iraq. A 'stay the course' approach that puts even more of our sons and daughters in the middle of a violent civil war is not the answer."

Health Care: "Working families in Ohio are burdened by skyrocketing healthcare costs. Something needs to change. I know the devil is in the details, and I need to make sure the President's proposal will improve access to health care and the quality of that care for the people of eastern Ohio."

Energy: "Year after year, we hear big promises about reducing our dependence on foreign oil, but that requires a real commitment to home-grown energy solutions. Eastern Ohio, with opportunities like clean coal and ethanol, stands ready to lead the way to energy independence."

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